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AUTOISTS MORE CAREFUL AT RAILWAY CROSSINGS

That drivers of automobiles are coming more careful is borne out by a recent check made in Kentucky by the Safety Department of the Southern Railway System.

At three different crossings on the Dixie Highway, observations were made this month with the following statistics noticed:

Number of vehicles passing over crossing, 967.

Number stopped before crossing tracks, 221.

Number where driver looked in one direction, 354.

Number where driver looked in both directions, 555.

Number where driver crossed without taking any precautions, 58.

Number crossed at speed exceeding twenty miles an hour, 28.

This check disclosed that one driver out of every four actually stopped to make sure that no trains were approaching before crossing the tracks, 57 per cent looked in both directions and 37 per cent looked in one direction before crossing tracks, while only 6 per cent failed to consider care at crossings and crossed without taking any precaution whatever.

"It takes very little of one's time to make sure that no trains are approaching before crossing railroad tracks," says a statement issued by the Southern, "and it is hoped that you, Mr. Autoist, will ever bear in mind the warning that it displayed throughout the country, 'Cross Crossings Cautiously' and never be listed as crossing tracks without taking due thought of the danger. It is by far wiser to be careful than to ignore any of the many precautions necessary."

FLORIDA HAS CHAMPION FISH STORY

(Barto, Fla., Record)
No tobaccoist ever told a lie, and so when J. A. Dalton, who has been visiting Tom Tucker, east of Lake Wales, Fla., near Templeton, tells that he saw a fish catch a bird, one believes it right away.

Dalton, who owns a cigar store at St. Petersburg, stopped to throw a line in a small pond by the way of the Templeton road. Nothing happened to his own hook, but after a cast or two he heard a commotion in the grass a few feet away. Going over to see what was the matter he found that a good-sized black bass had landed a black bird that had evidently been drinking from the pond, or, perching on the grass near the water. Just how the bass came to grab the bird Mr. Dalton did not know. He did not see that. But he did see that the bass had the bird, and when he drove it away, he found that it had so mangled the bird that it was about through with this life. Dalton killed the bird. The fish got away. A fish can catch a bird, says Mr. Dalton.

"THE COUNTRY BEYOND," NEW CURWOOD NOVEL

It's a romance that lifts you from the midst of humdrum cares and affairs, and carries you off to a balsam-scented wilderness to witness the life struggle of the most amiable rogue you'll find anywhere in fiction.

It's the story, too, of Nada, a beaten girl who had faith in a bad man. And emphatically the story of Peter, and Airdale. You will better understand the extent of an outdoors man's love for his dog when you have come to know Jolly Roger's dog Peter.

With a master hand Curwood has woven tense situations and swift adventure into this new story of his, with a result that there are wonderful hours ahead for you when you buy "The Country Beyond," superbly illustrated by Walt Louderback.

A Tip to the Wise.

It was the beginning of the second semester, and we were to have a new instructor in the English department. I rushed into the classroom and, seeing a supposed fellow student in one of the seats, said: "Well, I guess we'll have to give the old girl a good welcome this morning, but be rather dumb so she won't expect too much." In a moment the young woman began calling the roll, proving to be the instructor herself.—Chicago Tribune.

STATE HEALTH BOARD ADOPTS BREAD STANDARD

If the bakers of Kentucky, for their own protection and that of the people of the State, desire it, the Bureau of Foods, Drugs and Hotels of the State Board of Health will adopt for all bread inspections the standards of the Federal Joint Committee on Definitions, Miss Sarah H. Vance, director of the bureau, has announced.

Efforts will be made immediately to familiarize all bakers of the State with these definitions and later expressions from them will be sought to determine the advisability of their adoption.

These definitions define wheat bread or white bread as that made in the form of a loaf or rolls, or other units smaller than a loaf, by baking wheat bread dough. It must contain, one hour or more after baking, not more than 38 per cent moisture. The moisture limitation for milk bread is the same, but here there is provision for replacing not less than one-third of the water ingredient with milk or its equivalent.

In rye bread at least one-third of the wheat flour ingredient must have been replaced by rye flour. For raisin bread there is a provision that each pound of the baked product must have had added to it at least three ounces of raisins, and sweetening and shortening ingredients are permitted to be used in greater quantity than in wheat bread.

POULTRY AND EGGS MARKET REVIEW

Butter production has been heavier than during the corresponding period last year. There has been little change in prices throughout the producing sections. Demand for current consumption continues good, although some surplus is finding its way to storage.

Egg receipts are above normal and are somewhat in excess of the supply required for current use, the surplus being placed in storage. The stocks in cold storage are unusually large for this season of the year. The lower prices prevailing, if passed along to the consumer, should bring about a better demand.

Ample poultry for current use is being marketed, and as spring chickens reach the marketing age, the movement will undoubtedly increase, resulting in some decline in buying prices.

DEFINITION OF A SCAB

(Contributed)

After God had finished the rattlesnake, the toad and the vampire, He had some awful "substance" left, with which he made a "scab." A "scab" is a two-legged animal with a corkscrew soul, a water-logged brain and a combination backbone made of jelly and glue. Where other people have their hearts he carries a tumor of rotten principles. When a "scab" comes down the street honest men turn their backs, and angels in Heaven weep tears, and the devil shuts the gates of Hades to keep them out.

No man has a right to remain a "scab" as long as there is a pool of water deep enough to drown his body in, or a rope long enough to hang his carcass with. Judas Iscariot was a gentleman compared with a "scab" for after betraying his Master he had enough character to hang himself, and a "scab" has not.

AN OLD-TIME KENTUCKY CUSTOM

At one time Kentucky relied mainly upon the "warning in" system for maintenance work upon the public roads. Under this system the road overseer appointed by the County Court was empowered to "warn in" or summons every able-bodied male living along the public highway to work three days a year in keeping up the roadway.

Failure to obey the summons of the overseer and work on the road subjected the delinquent to a heavy fine and even a jail sentence. The system was operated many years, with most satisfactory results as the roads were worked by those living along and using them and therefore virtually interested in their upkeep.

BOURBON FARM CONDITIONS

The drouth condition in this county, as well as others of the Blue Grass region, has become so acute that the pastures are drying up completely, and many farmers are having to haul water from long distances for their stock, and now with the pastures dried up, corn curling and tobacco drying on the stalk, farmers are very much discouraged over the outlook.

The drouth may force a premature cutting of the tobacco crop, at least in some sections. The weed is not wholly ripe, but is drying up and some farmers believe they will profit by cutting it now rather than leaving it in the field. The crop is well advanced, and has just about reached maturity, but has been losing in quantity and quality for the past two weeks. The corn crop will be cut down to about half of what was at first expected, early in the season, unless saving rains come soon. The new potato crop is reported as being very good. Butter fresh milk and eggs are plentiful at moderate prices. Plenty of fruit and vegetables on the local market.

HOOD FREE IN KENTUCKY HILLS

Correspondents Find Quiet Sort of Men Make "Mountain Dew With Kick."

SUSPICIOUS OF STRANGERS

Continually on the Alert for Deputy Sheriffs, Revenue Agents and Prohibition Officers—Read World Magazines.

Catlettsburg, Ky.—Typical mountain moonshiners of Kentucky are not always of the gun-toting and trouble-making kind. It is proven to news correspondents by visits into the mountain region in this area of the state. The mountaineer type of moonshiner, however, is continually on the alert for deputy sheriffs, prohibition officers and revenue agents.

After a trip of thirty or forty miles into the mountains the correspondent was escorted to a moonshiner's log shack, made from the rough timber of the hillside and carefully arranged on a foundation of stone.

"Bill" greeted his visitors with a keen eye, a bit of suspicion, but with a friendly note in his shout of "welcome stranger." Proper inquiries whether any squirrels inhabited an adjacent mountain side, where a newly beaten path had been noticed, brought the answer that squirrels were scarce and none were found in the woods.

Mountain Dew Kicks.

When a friendly spirit developed some "mountain dew," or, in the language of the cities, "white mule," was produced from a small hand-made cupboard within the single room of the cabin, over which hung a religious picture and other articles of a religious nature. On the opposite side of the room over the bed of the mountaineer was a rifle of heavy caliber, an automatic pistol and a small-caliber revolver. The contrast was unique.

A small drink of the "mountain dew" almost brought slumberland to a Dempsey. Inquiries as to the age of the liquor brought the answer, "That's today's stuff."

Hospitality of typical southern quality will be found among the mountaineer residents if you are a "friend"; if an enemy—beware, or, as "Bill" explained it, "snakes in the mountain are killed." "Bill" makes his farm a payable proposition for his wife and children, who were attending church at the time of the correspondent's visit, by occasionally cutting some timber.

Reads Magazines of World.

His interest in world affairs is not limited and weekly trips to the nearest postoffice furnishes him with newspapers from the "outside." These are read by one member of the family, by lamp and candle light, to the others and often last throughout the week.

The moonshiner's home from the outside has an uninviting appearance, but once within the home, while some inconveniences are found, the impression of cleanliness is produced. The low ceiling forces a man of ordinary height to stoop. The board floor may creak, but it is solid and high and dry. In winter cold winds are shut out by the mud-plaster between the cracks of logs and by the board and paper lining of the inner walls. Heat is furnished by an oil burner and cooking is done on a coal range.

Oxen teams haul coal to the home during the fall months. A yoke of oxen pulling a load of timber along the narrow mountain road explains the manner which enabled the mountaineer to obtain all the sizable logs used in constructing his home.

YOUNG JAPAN TAKES TO JAZZ

Less Modernized Nipponese, However, Frown on Western Dancing.

Tokyo, Japan.—The question whether western dances are immoral is the subject of a lively debate in the Japanese newspapers at present. In the last few years western dancing has grown popular among Japanese women, especially those who have lived abroad, although it is by no means general as yet. They dance very gracefully in their native costumes and heeled slippers, but the older and less modernized Japanese frown on the growing custom.

Goat Looked Eight Days in Car Without Water

Poplar Bluff, Mo.—And now comes the "harmless" billy goat displaying some of his unique qualifications.

When a carload of lime was loaded at Cape Girardeau, Mr. Goat, unnoticed, made his way into the car and was locked therein. Eight days after, when the seals of the car were broken at the destination, Doniphan, Mo., and when the door was opened, out jumped Mr. Goat, spry, but apparently thirsty.

He was quickly treated to a drink of "Mountain Dew," which bubbles from a spring near Doniphan, and was happy. He seemed none the worse for his "Volstead fest."

"BUSINESS REVIEW" REVIEWS BUSINESS CONDITIONS

The monthly Business Review, published at Cleveland, Ohio, under auspices of the Federal Reserve Bank, of the Fourth Federal Reserve District, has the following regarding farming conditions in Ohio and Kentucky:

"With very few exceptions the many reports we have received on agricultural conditions are of very encouraging and hopeful nature. Wheat harvesting has been practically completed, and in many sections of the Fourth District threshing is well under way. While the yield is not high, and in some instances is below expectations, farmers quite generally feel encouraged over the returns. In marked contrast to former conditions, when the farmers were holding their wheat for larger prices, the crop this year is being marketed rapidly, and agricultural communities are paying off a part of their indebtedness.

"The corn crop at this time is reported to be looking very favorable. The acreage in Ohio is estimated to be 3 per cent greater than that of last year. The United States acreage and condition of corn in Kentucky indicates a crop of about 94,379,000 bushels compared to 82,150,000 bushels last year.

"The Burley tobacco crop is in excellent condition and the only thing that is worrying the tobacco planters is the large acreage. The crop was set out early and has grown fast and evenly. It is believed that a large part of the crop will be cut in August this year, and early cutting means good quality. Practically all of the old Burley has been sold, and it appears that the farmers are very well satisfied with the work of the marketing association, as a great many new members have been secured. Estimates of the Department of Agriculture place the 1922 tobacco acreage (all types) of Kentucky at 558,000 as compared to 385,000 acres last year, an increase of 45 per cent.

"In a special pig survey made by the Department of Agriculture, it is indicated that there will be a net increase of 14.5 per cent in the number of pigs raised in the corn belt States during the first half of 1922, compared with the first half of 1921. There is a belief that this increase may overcome the present shortage in meat."

1,202 MEMBERS JOIN BURLEY POOL

For the second time within the month previous sign-up records were broken by the Burley Tobacco Growers' Co-operative Association, the new members signed the past week totaling 1,202, representing an acreage of 14,294, according to the report of the week's activities from the offices of the association.

More than 200 growers in the Huntington, W. Va., and Eastern Ohio district, under the management of Clifton Rodes, were added the past week. Southern Ohio and Eastern Kentucky counties in which the campaign is in charge of J. N. Kehoe, of Maysville, yielded 275 more.

Hundreds of inquiries have been received by the association asking if it would sell the natural leaf in small quantities to individual buyers. So far the association has declined to dispose of any of its holdings in this way, though a number of Western Kentucky concerns have done a successful and considerable business in this way for a number of years through general advertisement.

Adoption of the policy of national advertising of the burley leaf followed success of the western fruit, prune and other co-operatives, particularly the raisin growers, who have found an outlet for a surplus each year by persistent advertising.

Bush W. Allin, of Harrodsburg, and John B. Winn, of Versailles, members of the Legislative Committee, were in conference with President Stone the first of the week, but nothing was given out as to what they discussed. Work on the advertising campaign authorized by the Board of Directors at its meeting Wednesday will begin soon.

HE'LL GET FRONT SEAT IN HEAVEN

Friends claim several unique records for Rev. Ira Combs, 78, of Perry county, widely known in the mountains as "Uncle Ira." Although he has preached every Sunday and most Saturdays for half a century, with the exception of when ill, he has never accepted a penny for his services, because "against principle." He is a minister of the Primitive Baptist denomination. He is the father of 19 children, and his descendants, extending to great grandchildren, number 183.

Soft Music Aids the Girls.

Music store clerks say that grandmas and grandpas keep up to date with the jazz and the syncopated stuff. It is the sixteen-year-old granddaughter who plays "When You and I Were Young, Maggie," on the phonograph for her beau, and gazes soulfully into his eyes as the music weeps forth. The music store people declare that the old tunes bring the beau to the speaking point as the saxophones never do.—Milwaukee Journal.

There the 2,174 characters in the works of Charles Dickens.

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